TAKE A LOOK AT OUR NEW DESTINATIONS. EXPLORE SOUTH AFRICA!

Over the years, I have lost count of the number of times I have been asked if we organise tours outside of Asia, and now I am proud to say we do! South African Trails is a fantastic itinerary designed to show you the very best of this diverse destination, with jaw dropping scenery and fascinating cultures. There are limited seats on this very special departure, so book now.



SOUTH AFRICAN TRAILS

South Africa combines incredible landscapes and cultures. Travel from the wilds of Kruger National Park, through the lands of the Zulu along the verdant Garden Route to the 'Mother City', Cape Town.

18 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON

\$8,490 TWIN SHARE



FROM SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, BRISBANE, ADELAIDE AND PERTH



MODERATE PACE



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- The incredible diversity of Kruger National Park
- Swaziland's unique culture
- The beauty of the Garden Route
- Cape Town and the magnificent Cape Point
- The white rhinos of the Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game Reserve
- The verdant Winelands

PRICE INCLUDES:

- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Touring with guides and entrance fees

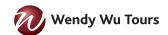
OPTIONAL EXTRA AVAILABLE TO BOOK AND PAY LOCALLY:

■ Evening safari in Kruger National Park









ITINERARY

■ Day 1-2: Fly to Johannesburg Fly overnight with South African Airways to Johannesburg for a two night stay.

■ Day 3: Johannesburg city tour Take a tour through some of Johannesburg's most fascinating sights. Visit the colourful township of Soweto, an area full of historical interest as the former home of Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu. Back in the city continue your walk through South Africa's contemporary history at the excellent Apartheid Museum, which explains the history of apartheid right up to abolition and the country's first multi-racial democratic elections.

■ Day 4: The Panorama Route

Depart Johannesburg travelling towards Kruger National Park via the Panorama Route. An area of great scenic beauty. the highlight is the Blyde River Canyon, a 20-mile long gorge that carves its way through the Drakensburg Escarpment - you will drive along its rim, passing evocatively named places such as God's Window and Bourke's Luck Potholes. In the late afternoon, arrive at your hotel close to the entrance of Kruger National Park.

■ Day 6: Kruger National Park

Rise with the sun to venture out into the savanna to the sounds of the dawn chorus. In an open-air safari vehicle, you'll have the perfect vantage point from which to explore what is considered one of the world's greatest reserves. Spend the day on the lookout for some of South Africa's most iconic beasts, from elephants and hippos, to lions and leopards. Returning to the hotel, the rest of the afternoon is at leisure with the option of embarking on an evening safari (book and pay locally).

■ Day 5: Swaziland

Start the morning with another safari into Kruger before you pop over the border into the Kingdom of Swaziland to spend the day amongst its spectacular landscapes and fantastic scenery. You'll feel the pace slow down and bygone traditions return to the fore as you visit Matsamo Cultural Village, a showcase of Swazi culture, and browse through the Mbabane craft markets. You'll spend the night in the beautiful Ezulwini Valley.

■ Day 7: Zululand

Head back over the border via the town of Big Bend to the

province of KwaZulu Natal. Take an afternoon scenic drive up into the Ubombo Mountains where you'll get fantastic views over Lake Jozini. You'll also have the opportunity to catch a glimpse into the life of the Zulu tribespeople with a stop at an authentic Zulu homestead. The next two nights are spent at the evocatively named Ghost Mountain.

■ Day 8: Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game Reserve

This morning will be at leisure to relax or explore as you please. Transfer to the Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game Reserve for an afternoon of game viewing. The reserve is one of the oldest wildlife parks in Africa and, thanks to conservation efforts, has the largest population of the white rhino in the world.

■ Day 9: iSimangaliso Wetland Park

Journey farther up the Elephant Coast arriving at St Lucia which sits at the southern end of the iSimangaliso Wetland Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. From here you'll embark on a cruise of Africa's largest estuarine system, encountering hippos, crocodiles and a large variety of birds, including African fish eagles and goliath heron. Continue to the city of Durban, a cosmopolitan city that's driven by an African rhythm.

■ Day 10: Durban city tour

South Africa's third city, Durban is known for its sense of fun. Explore the city's cultural and historical roots on a morning tour, taking in the recently developed harbour and the old colonial and art deco architecture. Check in at Durban Airport and fly to Port Elizabeth. On arrival, transfer to your hotel.

■ Day 11: Tsitsikamma **National Park**

Take the coast road from Port Elizabeth to Tsitsikamma National Park. Part of the Garden Route, Tsitsikamma is a coastal reserve that encompasses a range of ecosystems. Enjoy the beauty with an easy walk through the park, crossing a suspension bridge at the mouth of the Storms River. Continue on to Plettenberg Bay.

■ Day 12: Elephant Sanctuary

Spend the morning at an Elephant Sanctuary. Learning more about the resident African elephants from the informative guides, you will also have the

opportunity to interact with these gentle giants. This afternoon travel back to Plettenberg Bay to visit the Birds of Eden, a free-flight aviary and sanctuary. Traversing a gorge of indigenous forest, there are 3,500 birds here, spanning 220 species.

■ Day 13: Oudtshoorn

Start the day with a cruise up the Keurbooms River, spotting wildlife and admiring the unspoilt nature. Back on dry land, travel to the quaint lagoon-side town of Knysna, considered a gem of the Garden Route. You'll have some free time at Knysna Waterfront Complex, where you can browse galleries and boutiques. Travel on to Oudtshoorn, centre of the world's ostrich industry where you'll have a guided tour of a working ostrich farm.

■ Day 14: Cango Caves

Take a morning tour of the Cango Caves, a magnificent cave system located in the limestone foothills of the Swartberg Mountains. Transfer to Cape Town via Barrydale and check in at a luxurious five-star hotel - your home for the next three nights.

■ Day 15: Cape Point

Cape Town sits on the northern end of the Cape Peninsula, a rocky promontory that is home to pristine beaches. old coastal villages and an incredible biodiversity. You will spend the day exploring this

magnificent area, capped off with a stop at Cape Point. From this towering headland you'll have a spectacular view out over the dramatic, ocean battered rocks.

■ Day 16: Cape Winelands Tour Today is dedicated to the Cape Winelands. Here you'll find yourself amongst landscapes of manicured grape vines, their uniform rows stretching towards their spectacular mountainous backdrop. During the day you'll also be able to taste the famous fruits of the region at one of the

■ Day 17: Depart Cape Town

many wine estates.

Cape Town is one of Africa's most beautiful cities. Backed by Table Mountain and flanked by the Twelve Apostles, Cape Town has much to offer, from its beautiful beaches to the vibrant Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, unique heritage and cosmopolitan inclinations. Spend the day morning exploring the city's attractions before being transferred to Cape Town airport for your overnight flight to Australia.

■ Day 18: Arrive Home Arrive home today.

Extend your stay in Cape Town and explore this magnificent city at your own pace. Speak to your reservations consultant today.



Prices per person, twin share	• AIRFARES INCLUDED• >
2016 Date	SYD, MEL, BNE, ADL & PER
25 Nov – 12 Dec	\$8,490
2017 Date	SYD, MEL, BNE, ADL & PER
17 Mar – 03 Apr	\$8,690
21 Apr – 8 May	\$9,190
10 Nov – 27 Nov	\$9,490

Land only from \$6,320 (Johannesburg - Cape Town) Single room from \$1.120

Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Adelaide passengers: Virgin Australia domestic connections utilised to connect with South African Airways departing Perth

Above prices include airline fuel surcharge (correct as at 3 August 2016 and subject to change). Tipping is at your own discretion. K4746